caused by the want of proper boats, the dock being in ongside, and even they, drawing but two or three fee of water, were frequently touching bottom; the mer pleasantly as possible. On Friday the men were rapidly disappearing from the tstand, but few regiments remaining. The Fifth Rhode Island was stationed on th beach, just near the landing, and I visited them for the purpose of seeing the breaking up of the camp, and was Quite pleased at the order and quietness with which everything was conducted. It was expected that they would leave in the afternoon, but it was fully nine o clock before Major Wright gave the soldiers the order to march. As soon as the tents and other fixtures amusement was then the order of the day. Camp beds, floors, boxes, barrels, and overything istible was pressed into the service to make roaring camp fires, around which the boys clustered. Much has been said and written about such things, but the best descriptive power fails to give a true picture of such a scene. The different faces, gestures and amusements of the men form a study only for the painter. Most of the men gathered about the fires, the younger singing, rollicking, and otherwise enjoying themselves by harmles neuts, while the elder and more steady appeared as if they were turning their thoughts upon the coming she field. Thoughts of home at such times are sacred and not to be interfered with. Major Wright at last gave the word, and the line was formed and the dock reache in a very few minutes. As the Fifth Rhode Island con-sists only of a battalion, it was divided and two of the Terry boats taken for their accommodation. On Friday, the 7th instant, an order was sent on boar

General's aids for the Jersey Blue to pro sed to Hatterss and report to Captain Morris, of the orders. Accordingly the anchors were weighed and the Steamer started for her destination; but, owing to the ant of a pilot, Captain Jackaway being left to find his own way over the shallow and dangerous path between Roanoke Island and Hatterns, she was compelled to anchor twice, the wind blowing a perfect to pick our way in safety down to that most cheerless and barren strip of land known as Hatteras and running alongside a canal boat that acts as a dock as directed, and then proceeded to take it a supply of coal. But we had hardly been the e an hour or two before the little steamer Phenix was run down from Roanoke with another order, coming from Gen. Burnside, commanding us to return at once to headquarters providing that we had not already taken on board that which we were sent. Not having done so, we again got under way, and taking a pilot on board us in safety over the much dreaded swash, we headed towards Rosnoke Island, and after some little difficulty, such as touching bottom two o' three times, and carefully feeling our way, we arrived there on Sunday morning. It was a magnificent day and the appearance of the gunboats and transports a pnly to be witnessed a few times during the course of they peacefully rose and fell on the water was a thing life. The decks were crowded with the soldiers, who had a few days before been comfortably quartered on shore, the places where their camps had stood now presenting a most dismal aspect, nothing being visible where before stood the pretty white tents, with their beautiful background of green, but the remains of a few Samp fires, still smouldering and occasionally throwing out a light flame. The men were in excellent spirits, and regarded the unknown expedition upon which they were nd in the light of a most bri thing as a defeat or even a repulse, however slight, never entered their minds. Those who had not been in the Roanoke Island fight, wanted an opportunity to show their real in the great cause, and be able to return to their e places as heroes of at least one fight; while thos who had taken a part in the late struggle were desirous adding fresh laurels to those that they had won, We had naturally expected have a regiment, or at least a portion of one of us, and every pains had been taken to arrange matters so that they could be as comfortable a possible; but-our calculations were somewhat out of the similar to the first, sending us back to Hatteras on the same errand. The anchor had hardly been down when et was up again, and we were steaming back again through Pamileo Sound, and leaving Roanoke behind us, the numerous vessels gradually disappearing as our eed increased. We went on our way enjoying the fine sather and shooting at the flocks of wild ducks that were visible on every side, and arriving at Hatterns with any disappointment, as we had been there but a short time when we took on board a company of the First regiment of artillery, belonging to the United States regular army, and under the command of Captain Morris. was lost in getting things to rights. The borses-afty-three in number-were placed between bost they could, taking the deck for sleeping and exer-cise. We expected to go back at once to Roanoke for the ose of joining the rest of the fleet, as we had all made up our minds that Norfolk was to be the point attacked, and the soldiers had nerved themselves for a long and a tedious march through the land of the world-renowned Dismal Swamp; but again we were deomed to a disappointment, and our cherished idea, vanished, for we were ordered to cross the swash and anopinions into an entirely new channel, and we now place the scene of action in the neighborhood of Newbern, and felt quite certain that the fleet would come down the sound, I and that as they passed we should join them and accompany the expedition on its perilous undertaking. On the afternoon of the 10th a severe storm set in, and late in the evening rain and hall fell in abundance, and continued the enter part of next day. Every tog that passed anywhere near us we expected had orders for us but no such good news gladdened us. Instead, however we received the both painful and pleasing intelligence of the attempt of the rebel steamer Merrimac to run the blockade, painful on account of the reported loss of two frigates-one the Cumberland, and the the other unknown, but supposed to be the Minnesota—and pleasing because it was stated that the Merrimac had been driven back by the Ericsson battery, although we could not ascertain what damage she received, or, in fact, whether she ha been injured at all. The Monitor had all manner of praise showered upon her; but still the question would arise Why did they let her go back? Not knowing the particulars, however, we were satisfied with the fact that she had not escaped to prey upon our commerce, or annoy the blockaders stationed along At a later hour we heard that sh had committed great have amongst the vessels at Fortress Monroe, and that among the rest of her victims was the splendid California steamer Constitution. Eleve hundred was the number stated that were killed, drown-

that any portion of the truth could not be arrived at bu with the greatest difficulty. OFF FOR NEWBERN. The afternoon of the 11th cleared off fucly, and a about two o'clock several of the gunboats belongto Burnside's expedition came down from gether, and their arrival put an end to all further aren ment that the fleet was going to Norfolk. As the day advanced fresh additions were made to the fleet—steam transports, gcnboats and a large number of sailing craft aid reach the sound was dotted with the vessels and as fast as they arrived they collected together, esenting a most formidable appearance. Seveday; but as they were on the other side of the swash it was impossible to correctly escertain their names, even with the aid of a powerful marine plass. One of them was evidently a Long Island So boat, judging from her build. The vessels lay all night more was made. The Jersey Blue was lying at some ace from the rest of the vessels, and some little anxiety was felt on board when we saw a few of the gunboats steaming off towards Newbern, and we not wing yet received cur orders. The day was a remarkably fine one, and the consequence was that everybody was in the beat of spirits, and the favorable weather was looked upon as a happy omen of the success of the expedition. It was about seven o'clock in the morning prhon the fleet began to move, and as they started away their mission they had more the appearance of a flock of birds than of a hostile armada. The gunboats led the to west at the topiced upon as a reconnoissance, but the and were making all the preparations necessary for fand. moved up the tiver shelling the woods could be beard giroud (captain of the gun), and twenty three bundred upon as a reconnoissance, but the and were making all the preparations necessary for fand. ny, starting some little time before the others followed.

circulated with regard to this affair, each more terrible

than the other, and they at last become so conflicting

transports, with the sailing vessels in tow, soon began to get under weigh, until one by one they began to disappear in the distance, leaving us in some doubt as to whether we were to be favored with a place in the ranks. The morning, up to nine o'clock, was passed by Captain Morris in getting out ammunition and preparing for instant service, as far as was practicable on board the steamer. For some time the decks presented a most warlike aspect. Packages and boxes of shell, grape and canister were scattered about in a profusion that would make a nervous man anything but and ready, a small tug was seen approaching us, and all hurried to the side of the vessel to hear the orders that we were certain had come. She passed heat when we heard the welcome words shouled from her deck, as she passed by the officer in command, "Captain Morris will get the Jersey Blue immediately under weigh; follow the fleet, and report to General Porter on the steamer Pilot Boy." In a few moments everybody was hard at work, and everything was forgotten in the to carry out faithfully the instructions received and at half-past nine we were ploughing our way through the sound in hot chase after the cossels that had got the start of us. The Jersey Blue not being trammelled with any boat in tow, soon over-took the fleet, and passed them all, as if determined to The Brinker, Curlew, Eagle, Sentinel and others were all left behind with their heavy burdens, and we soon came up with the main body, and kept along with them thing occurring of note until we reached the mouth of the Neuse river, if I may except the empty bottles that we passed floating on the water—dumb, but most impressive witnesses of the conviviality going on in the boats ahead of us. All enbound on their glorious mission to restore to its original greatness this splendid country. The rigging and every vailable spot on the different craft were instantly seiz upon by the soldiers, and all kinds of salutations and okes were freely passed as the steamers sailed by each other. We reached the mouth of the Neuse river at three o'clock P. M., and the speed was slightly checked, but not stopped; and near this spot the first gun was fired by the second expedition under the following circumstances:—There was several little sailboats hugging the shore, no doubt to watch ou: novements, and they created some little curiosity amon? watch their movements. While we was looking at them made directly for the shore where two of the small sailboats were lying. We watched her with tne most intense interest, to see what she would do, and also what they would do. She kept the shore as it was safe for him to go without the risk of unning aground, and rounding he perceived a white smoke curl up from her side, and a second or two after heard the report of a gun. The shot struck the water some distance ahead, but indicted no injury; probably no damage being intended. By the aid of our glasses we saw that a small boat had been sent off from her, and shortly another gun was fired. By this time we had got nearly out of sight, and it was also getting dark, so the it was impossible for us to know the exact cause of the strange course taken by the saucy little Picket. SIGNAL PIRES ON THE RIVER.

As we went up the river there were other and stronge proofs that we were most jealously watched, and our movements telegraphed to the forces or to somebody in the rear, ne every two or three miles large fires wer, burning, which threw up a most dense amo passed they were permitted to die away. The banks of the Noose river, which is from two to four miles wide, are covered with dense pine woods, and there is one particula and most interesting feature connected with it, which is the number of farm houses scattered along its very edge and almost hidden in the thick foliage. I made several attempts to got a peep at some of the inhabitants, as we would sometimes run in pretty closely to the shore, so close in fact that had anybody been disposed they might have picked off some of us with a rifle. We attributed the total absence of human beings, where so many houses were, to the fact that all the men were in the army or fortifications on the coast, and that the women were somewhat afraid to show themselves.

AT ANCHOR IN THE NEUSE RIVER. We ascended the river about twenty miles, and night having come upon us prepared to anchor. The fires on shore now began to burn with great brilliancy, throwing up a red glare that could be clearly discerned some miles distant. The fleet had all gathered together on the southern bank of the river, and accordingly we turned our head in that direction, but we were stopped by the steamer Alice Price, on which General Burnside had his headquarters, and directed to run in to the north shore as far as possible and than anchor. Jackaway, always willing, obeyed at once, and the lead was in readiness to find out how far we could run in. The other vessels was now far from us, bow into the opposite side to thom. The water was very deep. The captain expected shoal water every minute but the lead showed three fathoms until we got int such dangerous preximity to the shore that, for our batteries and attacking parties during the night ran through many of our heads, and none could understand why we should be sent to such a spot, more particularly as we were not a gunboat o was everything, and thus we stayed until Captain Morris got the yawlboat out to go and report to ordered to such a dangerous position was the conseque of a mistake, and we were ordered to take a place among the feet. We had the 'ap iness of hearing, a short time after, that quite a number of rebel troops were on shore only a little distance back from where we were lying. The night was clear, warm and moonlight. The men on board of the vessels were singing, and no one would have ever supposed that the fleet lying so peacefully there meant anything other than mild measures. I got a small boat and crew, through the kindness of Captain Jackaway, and rowed about through the were flashing on all sides until all the vessels were safely at anchor, when they ceased, and all outward correspondence between the versels was stop-ped; inside, all was bustle and expectation. On the Alice Price, the Headquarters of General Burnside, all the chief officers had collected in he cabin and a council was held nearly all night, there were so many things to be arranged, orders given and everything set to rights for the next day, when it was onfidently expected that the forces would move up to

Newbern and attack it. To add to the scene, and to ren der it more impressive still, we had some fine music from the bands the national air being the most prominen and the best received of all. As the night advanced the music ceased, the splashing of cars in the water was heard but seldom, and everything settled down into unusual quiet. The decks of the vessels were mostly crowded with the soldiers, but scarcely a sound could be heard on any side. The soldiers no doubt were busy thinking of the coming strife, of home, and of their chances of returning crowned with victory, or of being left dead on the field noble martyrs in a giorious cause During the night it commenced to rain, and the mooning of the 13th looked everything but encouraging for a orward movement or for an attack. About seven o'clock however, it brightened up, and the sun shone out clear and warm. All were expecting to see the fleet push on ing and no order to go in given out, some surprise was anifested at the tardiness; but those unacquainted with the secrect were still more astonished when numbers of mall boats were lowered into the water and rapidly filled with troops. Some of the boats thus loaded movetowards the shore, while others congregated together waiting to be towed ashore by the small boats provided for the purpose. The gunboats had left the centre of the fleet, and now lay scattered all along the shore fer some

few miles, a dull report a little shead of us told us that one of the boats had sent a messenger on shore to carry the tidings of our coming; a messenger that was not afraid of being taken and needed no flag of truce to pr tect him. The first shot having been fired, several of the gunboats that were ranged along the beach commenced shelling the woods, and for about an hour quite a brisk fire was kept up, the sound of the shell as they passed through the thick pine forest being similar to the swift passage of a railroad train over a bridge. A slight volume of stpoke rising from the woods denoted the spot where the projectile had struck, it being frequently accompanied by a report se loud as that of the discharge of the gun. While the steamers were thug busy looking of the "beehIves" in the woods and pre-

venting anything like an approach to the water by rebel

ing on this new land of secesh. The boats were placed in tow by the steamers, they themselves being loaded almost down to the water's edge. They moved very slowly on account of the number of men in each boat being so great As they passed the vessels they were cheered most lustily—compliments which they returned with a will. Four lines started for the shore, and in a few seconds the rigging of every vessel was black with human beings all eager to watch their cannonade as they approached the land of masked batteries and treachery. The firing from the gunboats was still kept up at short intervals. but it was clearly evident that there was nothing in the way to obstruct the safe landing of the Union soldiers The little fleet of row boats cautiously neared the beach and, finding a good place to effect a landing, they were so drawn up on the sandy beach in regimental line, much t the gratification of those on the vessels in the river. The business of debarkation was kept busily going forward all the forenoon, and the men were put in by the report that reached us that Gen. McClellan had made an advance towards Manassas, and that the rebel were retreating before him. The universal sentiment wa that the iron was hot, and now was the time to strike with force and all together. This done, and the Unio troops would soon see the end their present enlistment; by that time rebellion would be crushed and the present war be placed among the things of the past. About half a mile down the beach two or three gunboats were constantly engaged in throw-ing shell into the woods, it was supposed at some rebel cavalry that were known to be in the neighborhood reconnoitering. The transports began to run a little closes in with their living freight, and in a very short time al of the troops were landed, and on their way to the but tories that lay above, with the exception of our bat tory. I landed with the soldiers, but not with the intention of following their fortunes, preferring to stay with the navy, and note their doings. Three of us effected a landing on the sandy shore, and started on an independent reconnoissance of our own After following the boach about half a mile we spied a farm house, and lost but little time in making our way t it, determined to have a talk with the inhabitants, and possible, procure a little fresh provisions. Eggs, fowl and milk were luxuries that we had not seen for many day, and our appetites were whetted by the appearan of several "roasters," more vulgarly known as pigs We approached the house in a very cool man ner, and made our wants known; but whether from a disinclination to satisfy us, or their not having the estables were concerned, but not so with the interview. The family, consisting of husband, wife and six little children, appeared anything but pleased to see us, and kept their eyes on us the whole time we remained, as i earful that we come to rob them of the little they pos sessed; and even the house dog, as if in sympath with his master, kept a most jealous and dangerou eye upon our metions. From these people w pearned that the fleet was no unexpected visiter the inhabitants being taught to look for its arrival a any moment for two months past, but they did no expect an attack on this point, thinking the vesse would go much further up before stopping with any hostile intent. The master of the house disclaimed anything like secession sentiments, and the mistress whose life was nearly frightened out of her by the pas sage and explosion of the shells over her house, wa very anxious to know why they should be troubled more for the preservation of her pigs and chickens, than not care whether they were under the guardianship of Jeff. Davis or the protection of the United States govern noying them. The man was ignorant of everything per taining to fertifications, and declared he had not been up the river for a long time. He was very guarded, and the only positive information we could get was that a compa any of North Carolina cavalry had been on the point, where our troops landed the day before, but he could not tell when they left or where they went. We returned to our boat, a heavy rain falling at the time, and we got thoroughly drenched The battery on the Jersey Blue had been ordered to land and proceed with the troops, and I had just prepared myself for a long march, when the order was counter nded, not however, until a number of men, equi ments, &c., had been transferred to the Alice Price, a and in a few minutes we were again under way and heading for the first battery. At the time of the order to disembark was received, a most tragic affair came to light, as follows:—One of the privates in was found lying near one of the carriagewhee with his throat cut from oar to ear and perfectly dea There was no question as to the method of his death unfortunate man having ended his own existence. H about six months. For some days past he had been ob barkation the rest of the men were preparing for the march, but he paid no attention to anything, but went and lay down by himself. From that time until his body was found he was not seen, and it supposed that the man in a fit of melanchol madness put an end to himself, his razor being found i his hands and a most frightful wound inflicted on his seck. He could have lived but a few moments after committing the act, as he made not the every one supposing him to be sleeping. His body wa sewed up carefully in a canvas bag, and his morta offered up a short but touching prayer to Almighty God for the safety of his soul, and he sank to rise no more until the end of all things. This sad event cast a gloom over the men for rest of the day, but more important and imperative duty had to be performed, and but little was said on the sub ject. Had the rash man waited but for a day, he migh have died nobly on the field, without thus endangering his eternal happiness. We continued up the river at three miles nearer Newbern, and anchored there for the night. Friday morning there was a dense fog covering the face of the water, and it was impossible to land. About ten o'clock the fog lifted, and preparations were nstantly made to send the battery on shore at th time the George Peabody, with the Forty-eighth Penn sylvania Volunteers, came up, and landed the men or the beach. There were but six companies, the rest being left at Hatteras. They were instantly marched off the scene of conflict, with a large supply of ammunition for the troops; but, after a most tedious march, they arrived at the long battery only to find that it was in possession and Newbern had fallen. The Rhode Island pattery and Morris' battery, which would have mate rially assisted in the fight, unfortunately were not landed

in time to take parr in it. THE OPERATIONS ON LAND.

The point at which the troops landed is the month Slocum's creek, about twelve miles below Newbern, by water, and seventeen by land. The Patuxent, Captain Bennett, the flagship of General Reno, was the first to enter the creek, General Reno's brigade having the honor of the advance. The Twenty-first Massachusetts regiment, under Lieutenant Colonel Clark, was on board the Patuzent, and was to have landed first, according the programme, but the steamer Alice Price, with General Burnside and the Fifty-first New York regiment, glided suddenly by the Patuzent, and ran up as near as possible to the beach, when the color bearer of the regiment fear lessly jumped overboard into some four feet of water and holding the flag up over his head waded ashore Reaching terra firms the flag was unfurled, and the Stars and Stripes once more floated over that portion of North Carolina. Colonel Ferrero followed into the water an example which his whole regiment soon imitated, and in a few minutes his whole command was ashore Almost at the same time and within a briefer period than it takes to narrate it the other regiments ellowed, and the water was soon a swarm of men was ing ashore, and of launches filled with troops from the ressels further out in the stream. I must not omit to mention that the Pilot Boy, the flagship of Gen. Foster iso ran in shore, and the troops on board (Twenty-fifth Massachusetts) likewise jumped into the water. With

an hour the greater portion of the division was ashore. The regiments gathered around their respective colors and took up a line along the edge of the creek and river. Word was now sent by General Reno to the Twenty-first Massachusetts and Fifty-first New York to commence advance, and both regiments rapidly got in motion. The rest followed as soon as regimental line was formed The orders to the advancing regiments were to take the road leading along by the shore for a distance of some two miles. The loud reports of the gunboats as they

with terrific distinctness. The road, which at first wound in among the trees, suddenly diverged out upon the beach, and the marching was now made through heavy sand, much to the fatigue of the troops who were en-cumbered with a sufficiently heavy load in their weighty knapsacks, muskets and cartridges. Sixty rounds of the latter had been distributed to each man.

At the end of the two miles (though it reatly seemed three or four) the road took a sudden turn to the left, which the head of the column defiled into. Pursuing it for a short distance, signs of an encampment were dis-covered peoping over the brow of a hill. At sight of it our troops burst into a wild cheer, and dashed up the slope at a run and entered the camp. But the enemy had vanished. The whole place exhibited evidence of a most precipitate flight. The fires were still ablaze breakfast was untouched; warm griddle cakes were ready for eating; beds, blankets, clething, boots and shoos, were strewn about as if a hasty but unsuccessfu ewrt had been made to collect them and bear them off. Our soldiers soon ransacked the camp in search of trophies and relics, and took what suited them. From documents which I found in one of the tents, ascertained that the place had been occupied by ompany of about eighty cavalry, under comma a brief one. The order soon came to reform, and the olumn, falling into line, once more resumed the march. The day, which had been fine up to this time, now

became cloudy, and the rain began to fall in torrents. It so continued to fall throughout the rest of the day and Pressing steadily on they pursued the road for about mile or more, until it diverged into the broad country road or stage route between Newbern and Beaufort. The an ordinary pathway through the woods, and of course possessed many disadvantages for marching. The delightful one; but as the troops advanced it became more and more muddy, and it was with the greatest difficulty that the artillery was dragged through it In some places it led over swamps and marshes, and its almost impassible condition, not at all benefitted by the falling rain. However, our troops pushed on with a determination and energy surprising in soldiers who had not before experienced the hardship and fatigue of a rapid march. The march might almost be gived a

Soon after midday the skirmishers in advance returned with the information that a long earthwork, with battery, was ahead protecting the approach to the rail-road, the point at which our forces were aiming, both to cut off communication between the threatened city and Beaufort, and to obtain cars, if possible, for the transportation of the artillery, amunition and baggage. A momentary halt was ordered and a recentoitering party was sent out, but almost immediately came back with the information that the enemy was not to be seen and that the entrenchment had been abandoned. The troops got in motion again, passed through the work by the sallyport in the centre and pressed on to the road. At the crossing point were some meadows upon which the various regiments stacked arms for a short time, while skirmishers scoured along the track and found a couple of baggage wagons, which were soon made use of. The breastwork excited no little curiossty. It was about five feet in height, with its face sleping into a ditch or trench, some six or eight feet deep, and ex.

mounted no guns.

After a hasty meal from their haversacks, mo with a draught of water from the roadside, the word to march was again given, and the troops, dividing into two columns, moved—one on the railroad and the other on the stage road. No sign of the enemy, however, was visible. Our skirmishers ahead vainly sought to find them. After a fatiguing march of two hours it was deemed advisable to order another halt, and just at a ntervening fields of grass, the two columns as they came in sight of each other rested. The men broke line, relieved themselves of their knapsacks temporarily, and, throwing themselves upon the ground or seating selves upon logs and fel their nearly exhausted strength and rested their wearled limbs. The soft, sloshy, or-as one individual terms it..."bootjack" mud, and the marsh water getting into their boots and shoes, combined to chafe the fesh and

intil about eight o'clock, the troops still following th, two roads. It was now dark night, and a mile or more had been travelled since the shades of evening fell. The soldiers ranged out across the woods, and a halt was ormorning. Soon the bright flames of many givouse fire shot up between the trees, and the soldiers wrapping themselves in their blankets, laid down upor zling rain, passed the night before the battle. Pickets were thrown out, the fires were replenished by watches, and silence soon brooded over the scene.

advance came in contact with some cavairy pickets of the enemy, who fied when challenged. The fact gave

The farm houses in the vicinity furnished shelter t those who were fortunate enough to get room inside of them. I happened to be among the lucky few, though a first there seemed to be no alternative but to share the fields and woods with the majority. If your readers will permit a brief narrative of a correspondent's adventures on that night, it may repay a perusal, and will at least give an idea of the manner in which those who obtained such shelter passed the time. Separated during the march from the newspaper correspondents, chance threw me into company with Mr. Schell, artist of Frank Leile's and we decided to share a common bed during the night wherever it might be. Having made application at one house, and finding it already filled, a negress conducted is some two hundred yards away to another, which be onged to her "marss," but had been deserted by his and all his family, save the slaves. Lieut. Schlachter and y greeted us. A bright fire of logs had been kindled in he hearh which threw its warmth to every corner of the partment. Gathering around, we drew forth our meer chaums, sweetbriars and tobacco, and while refreshing purselves with the fragrance of our "killickinick," drie our scaked clothing and awaited supper. The means for this latter were furnished by a foraging party who wen out into the outhouses and barn, and there discovered some chickens, the dislocation of whose cervical verte orae was accomplished much to the disgust of the negro guide, who, as he saw each fowl fluttering in the agonic f death at his feet, pronounced it " done gone for." o bboard furnished us with the necessary dishes, one of the slaves cooked the chickens, and also some indian akes, and altogether we partook of a most hearty meal After another pipeful, and another attempt to dry our others on the table, but I was fortunate enough to have : feather bed between me and the damp boards. In the norning another foraging party furnished more poultry for breakfast, while those who desired went out into the garden and helped themselves to delightful honey from beehives, three or four of which were located there THE BATTLE.

it was now about half-past seven o'clock (on the morn ing of the 14th) and a sharp firing ahead denoted that our skirmighers had encountered the enemy. Rapidly orming, the different regiments assumed their position in their brigades, and the division marched to the attack work came in sight across a wide field, a shot was fired from one of its guns. The missile, which proved to be a shell, struck within ten feet of the general and his staff, but, not exploding, bounced along the ground, splushing

Gen. Foster, whose brigade had advanced by the stars road, rapidly found his regiments in line of battie in the fringe of woods skirting the edge of the field before the broastwork; the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts, Colone Stevenson, on the extreme right; the Twenty-fifth Massachusetts, Colonel Upton, next, with its left rest ing on the road; the Twenty-ninth Massachusetts Lee, next, with right resting on the road and the Twenty-third Massachusetts, Colonel Kurtz on the brigade left, with the Tenth Connecticut in reserve. To support this line against the eighteen or twenty gun, of the enemy's battery, our forces had only a few piece of artillery. The rest was on the way, but did not read the field in time to participate in the fight. The dispesi tion of our artillery in support of General Foster's post tion was as follows:-On the extreme right Executive Officer McCook's battery of boat howitzers from the navy, manned by Lieutenants McCook, Hammond, Daniels and Tillotson, with marines and a detadhment o the Union Coast Guard. In the centre, and near th road, a twelve-pounder steel gan from the Cossack, manned by Captain Bennett, his second mate, Mr.

rew. On the left Captain Dayton's battery, from the After the first gun the enemy run their flag dec

up over the ramparts and opened very briskly with round shot, grape, canister and shell. Their infantry were stretched out the entire length of the work be-tween the river and the railroad, and kept up an incossant fire with musketry.

Their fire was replied to with equal vigor by the bri-

gade. When it had taken up its position, and leaving them engaged, let me return to the operations of the Second and Third brigades, under Generals Reno and

The Second brigade, consisting of the Twenty-first Massachusetts, Lieutenant Colonel Clark; Fifty-first New York, Colonel Ferren; Fifty-first Pennsylvania, Colonel Hartaruft, and Ninth New Jersey, took the railroad and proceeded along the enemy's right flank. It is somewhat remarkable that the manœuvres of the battle were nearly the same as those of the fight at Roanoke Island. The point at which the intrenchment crossed the railroad was strongly defended by a series of redoubts and rifle pits, while a subsequent examination revealed the fact that beyond these redoubts the breastwork was continue defences about three miles. The operations of our forces, however, were confined to that only between the river

and the railroad track.

The Third brigade, under General Parke, took up a position on the front, between the first and second bri-

gades.
Such was the disposition of our troops. The engagement regularly opened about eight o'clock, when the
first brigade bore the brunt of the battle. General Fosier rode fearlessly along giving his orders, and was several times exposed to the hottest of the fire. His alds soverat times appeared to he bettegt or the fire. In such too shared the danger, and one of them, Licutenant Pen dicton, narrowly escaped injury, if not death, from a bullet which passed through his coat sleevs, just grazing the arm. The Massachusetts Twenty-fourth, on the righthad soon to regret the wounding of two of their office major Stevenson and Adjutant Horton, the former by ball in the leg, the latter by a ball in the shoul Early in the engagement the Massachusetta Twenty third lost Lieutenant Colonel Murritt, who was struck by a cannon ball, which carried away one side of his body and lacerated his form in a horrible manner. The pro portion of officers killed and wounded during the entire ight was quite large. The Twenty-seventh Massachu setts seemed for some reason to be more exposed to the fire of the enemy, and with ammunition expended, and a large loss were withdrawn. The Tenth Connecticut intil now in reserve, was ordered to their support, and as they fell back took their place; moving to the front with great alacrity and opening fire with vigor. The Tenth was finally compelled to retire through want of ammunition, and the Eleventh Connecticut took their place. To the First brigade belongs the credit of having so gallantly and attentively engaged the battery while of flanking the enemy's right, of which I have now to

When it became evident that the First brigade was capable of carrying on the fight in front, the Third, which had been supporting it, was ordered, with the exception of the Eleventh Connecticut, to support the Second in the flank movement. Accordingly the Eighth Connecticut, Fourth Rhode Island and Fifth Rhode Island regiments withdrew a short distance into the woods, and defi to the left came out upon the railroad and going forward came in the rear of the Third brigade.

This portion of the field of operations was immediately nder the command of General Reno, and to him was allotted the task of the flank movement already referred to, and which he so brilliantly and successfully accom

of intrenchment extended beyond, or if it did, much benovement consequently of getting in the rear, they discovered not the mere obstacle of swamp or marsh, but also of a series of redoubts and rifle pits, which defended the immediate vicinity of the track. Our attack in fron had so far been confined to the right, near the river where one of the water batteries had reversed its gun and was assisting in the defence of the breastwork by a enflading or, more properly, diagonal fire upon our troops. The great body of the enemy was consequently here posted, and the flank movement came near result-ing in a perfect surprise, though they rapidly reinforced the redoubts as soon as they discovered the approach on

Having drawn out in line of battle the Second brigade returned the fire of the enemy vigorously, who, from the rifle pits and behind the screening edges of the redoubts, were picking off our men with deadly certainty at every shot. But we have to boast of our sharpshooters also, as many a rebel in these same rifle pits and behind the in-

At last the word was given to charge, and the Massa Massachusetts Twenty-first, supported the movement, while the Ninth New Jersey, Fifty-first Pennsylvania, Eighth Connecticut and Fourth and Fifth Rhode Island assailed the work at various points. The four companies the others into the intrenchment, and, driving the rebels be ore them, had attempted to reverse the guns, when repulsed by a strong reinforcement of the enemy, who suddenly charged from a little ravine or hollow just in the rear, and with their overwhelming numbers drove them out, making a few prisoners. Our repulse was but monentary. Re-forming the Massachusetts Twenty-first, New York Fifty-first, Fourth Rhode Island and the Ninth New Jersey, with the Fifth Rhode Island in reserve, reanother desperate resistance of the enemy, a hand to hand contest over the ramparts of the entrenchment, in which our forces at one time actually reversed its pur-pose and used it as a breastwork for their own protecion, while they kept the rebels at bay inside, they drove the enemy out, and, at the point of the bayonet, chased them back out of sight. The victory was wo with the loss of nearly seventy killed and two hundred and fifty wounded-a heavy one when it is taken into consideration that of the two brigades only six regiments and one battalion were engaged. The fire of the enemy was terrific, and embraced all the varieties of missile. Gen. Reno and Gen. Parke admirably conducted the whole manœuvring, and with their aids and staff

were exposed to no inconsiderable danger. When the word to charge was given on the left th cheers with which it was received were heard over on the right, and instantly the First brigade emerged from its position along the edge of the woods, and dashing across the fields assailed the enemy at the very muzzles of their guns. But the retreat of their forces on the flank had inspired all with a panic, and they most ingle riously fied, leaving their cannon unspiked, a number of horses, the caissons, and the unexpended ammunition They contrived, however, to bear off the greater portion of their killed and wounded, so that it is impossible to form an approximate estimate of their loss, though it cannot full far short of our own.

The loss of the First brigade is nearly thirty killed and two hundred wounded, which, when added to that of the Second and Third brigades given above, will give a tota cas on our side, in round numbers, of one hundred killled and four hundred and fifty wounded.

About three hundred prisoners were taken, the honor of which achievement belongs to Lieute-nant Hammond, of the gunboat Hetzel, who was serving one of the guns of Lieutenant McCook's naval battery. They formed portion of a South Carolina regiment, under command of Colonel Avery, who was among those taken. A handsome blue and white flag was cap tured with them. It is made of silk, beautifully fringed and bears the inscription, "Our cause—it is just; then conquer we must." Another flag among the trophies of the capture was made of black bunting, with the words, in gold, "Victory or death."

Company E, Capt. O'Neil, of the Twenty-fifth Massachutetts regiment, captured two large rebel flags in the pattery, and some two or three others were found in

Much praise is due to the Fifth Rhode Island regiment first battalion), Major Wright, for the gallant manner is which it acted during the fight. It was its first time under fire, no opportunity having been afforded it to

The crews from many of the large gunboats partici pated in the fight on shore. Lieutenant Oscar Eastmond , of the Sentinel, volunteered as lieutenant in Company E, Eighth Connecticut, and fought throughout the battle

THE MARCH INTO NEWBERN.

Our troops did not remain long in contemplation of the battle field they had so nobly won. After a short

the greatest ourlosity, searched the tents for phice and relice, and inspected the place generally, they again got into line and, dividing into two columns as bewas now about eleven o'clock, the battle having lasted rapid rate upon the beels of the fugitive rebets, who, some two or three miles from the battle field, jumped into a train and retreated into the city, setting fire to the bridge over the Trent river after they had crossed. The greater portion of them escaped in this way, but large number who failed to get upon the train, and con sequently could not cross the river by the railroad bridge, followed the bank of the Trent some three quarters of a mile up, and these crossed over on an old country bridge. In their flight they threw away muskets, blankets, pistols, swords, and whatever interfered with rapid locomoti of the weapons were shot guns, old horse pistols, brass pistols, cutlasses, sabres and home made swords, if I may so call them, for they appeared to have been manufac-tured out of old carving knives, meat choppers and the like, roughly adjusted into handles of common pine wood and in many cases fastened with twine. An occasional dead or wounded rebel was met with by the roadside. The latter were taken up and delivered into the charge of our own surgeons, who treated them as kindly as if they belonged to our own ranks.

DESTRUCTION OF THE RAILROAD BRIDGE AND ATTEMPTED BURNING OF THE CITY.

The railroad along this portion of its length runs in almost a straight line towards Newbern. At its further extremity black sinche was soon observed to be rising into the clouds, and with a sign of regret we became convinced of the feet that the whole were burning the vinced of the fact that the rebels were burning the houses in the city and the bridge crossing Treat river to prevent our pursuit of them and entrance into the city. It is asserted by some that one of the ignited tar scows which had been sent adri t on the river to fire our fleet had been carried by the wind and tide up the Trent river, and coming under the brilge set it in flames. But I have the authority of an inhabitant of the city, who witnessed the affair, for stating that the rebels deliberately towed the cow under the bridge moored it with ropes and then set fire to its combustible contents. In either event its destruction is to be regret-ted, as it formed one of the most picturesque features of the really beautiful scenery in the vicinity of Newbern city, and cost, I understand, about \$50,000 to erect.

Nothing is now left of it but a still smoking mass of charred beams, blackened crumpled tis, distorted rail-read tracks and the brick piers.

Little remains to be told of the march to

this point. The troops reached the bridge about half-past three o'clock in the afternoon, their weary steps having been accelerated towards the latter portion o the march by the excitement attendant upon witnessing the heavy, pall like clouds of smoke which hung over the city in the distance. One black column, which ascended for many hundred feet into the air, with now and then bright leaping flames at its base, subsequently proved to be from five scows and the burning tar, rosin, pitch and tar in and around them. Through the am was seen the spires of the churches, and many an im precation was muttered against the vandalism who committed so wanton an act. At first it was thought that the entire city was in flames; but the flight of the rebels was too precipitate to enable them to fully consummate their purpose, and the only buildings de-stroyed were a large hotel called the Washington House, ing one block in length, on the second street ba from the river; two or three private dwellings, and a number of whiskey and turpentine distilleries. Notice had been given to the citizens to remove their property within an hour, at the expiration of which time the work of destroying the cutire place was to have commenced, and would probably have been accomplish. ed had not our troops and gunboats made their appear ance so soon. As it was, the conflagration was staye by the exertions of those cilisens who remained behind out of the general flight of everybody except the slaves, who, thinking it was a kind of holiday, had commenced to ransack and plunder the houses—a proceeding which was soon put an end to. The Union sentiment of the city was by no means inconsiderable, and men of such politscal faith, feared not our approach. They brought out the fire engines and went to work with a will, and success-

fully, to prevent the fire spreading.

There were three little steamboats at the wharves. which the robels also attempted to destroy. Two of these, the North State and Albemarie, were rescued by our marines, who captured them under fire of the gun. boats; but the third, called the Post Boy, was fired and burned to the water's edge before it could be saved. An uncompleted vessel, of handsome model, intended for a rebel gunbot, was on the ways in the ship-yard. It escaped unharmed and as we have plenty of shipwrights and timber here it will, no doubt, become a convert from the errors of its in fancy, and in its full development do good service in

On two wharves in range of the railroad bridge were a couple of batteries mounting two guns, constructed of cotton bales with earth facing. They were intended, no doubt, to dispute the passage of the bridge or the ap proach of small boats across the Trent river.

OCCUPATION OF THE CITY. The transports had now come up to the vicinity, and orders were sent for their small boats to come to the abutment of bridge to take over troops. The First brigade embarked in them and were transported to the captured steamers North State and Albemarie, which in turn ferried them across to the city. The Sec Third brigades remained on the other side, and there bivousked for the night. I was in the first boat load that crossed, and have the gratification of being able to say that I was the first correspondent in Newbern. As the negroea were pillaging the city, breaking into the closed up stores, end removing to their quarters whatever valu-ables they got hold of. General Foster immediately detailed the Twenty-fifth Massachusetts regiment as a pa trel and provest guart guard, for the preservation of pro-perty. Captain Pickett was appointed Provest Marshal pro tem., and established his headquarters in the bank building, which was found deserted, its furniture and a greater part of the books and papers taken away. Order now began to reign in Warsaw," and the peculations and depredations ceased, while the drunken men of our troops, who had been furn'shed with or found liquor, were given an opportunity to recover their sobricty by a short sojourn in the guard house.

OUR TROOPS ISSUE A NEWSPAPER. Visits were paid to the principal buildings, and guards stationed over them. The Post Office was found deserted, as also the office of the Newbern Progress, the daily newspaper of the place. A form, all locked up, co tained the following paragraph:-

TER ENEMY IN SIGHT.

The signals on Neuse river, below our batteries, gave news of the approach of the enemy, yesterday afternoon about five o'clock. A boat was immediately despatched down the river, and, on its return we were placed in positive information of the presence of ten steamers and one large transport (schooner) in the river only about twelve miles below Newbern and in a few miles of the lower batteries.

teries.

Everything was active and preparations were busy here last night, and a battle is certainly expected to-day, and the day will probably decide the fate of Newbern. seeing which a sergeant of one of the regiments, a printer, went to a case, set up and added the following

postscript:-Friday did it. We have taken Newbern. The enem endeavored to burn the town, but were unsuccessful the inhabitants using the fire engines and other mean in their power to extinguish the flames.

YANKEE PRINTER. SATURDAY, March 15, 1862.

Copies of the paper were struck off yesterday morning and distributed around. I send you several, but you must understand that the present editors of the paper do not endorse one line of its contents save what is in the postscript above.

General Foster has established his headquarters at the

Gaston House, the only remaining hotel, where his As-sistant Adjutant General, Capt Hoffman has been busily engaged in administering the oath of allegiance, and of neutrality. The people who fled from the city on the day of the battle are returning gradually, and before many days business will resume its usual course. Shop keepers will be allowed to reopen their stores only on aking the oath.

THE PORCES ORPOSED To us far outnumbered our own, and amounted to be tween tweive and fifteen thousand. Among them were

Ninteenh North Carolina regiment Twenty-sixth North Carolina regiment. Thirty-third North Carolina regiment. Thirty-seventh North Carolina regiment, Col. Avery's South Carolina regiment. Capt. Evans' company of cavalry. And one Tennessee regiment. I have not been able to ascertain the others. All the

forces were under command of Gen. Branch, who was at one time, I believe, Secretary of the Interior.

The victory has placed us in possession (besides the